Episode 31: Grin

STOHESS DISTRICT.

THE EASTERN CITY ATTACHED TO WALL SHEENA.

THEY'RE SAYING THE MILITARY POLICE'LL TAKE CUSTODY OF HIM.

SO THE RUMORS OF SOME BRAT WHO CAN TURN INTO A TITAN WERE TRUE...

THEY'LL PASS THROUGH HERE TODAY.

THAT TITAN KID AND THE TOP BRASS ARE BEING SUMMONED TO THE ROYAL CAPITAL.

HM? YOU DIDN'T HEAR?

I JUST HOPE THINGS KEEP MOVING FORWARD, AND THEY SEAL THAT GATE.

THUD

BUT I HEARD THEY WERE GOING TO DISSECT HIM.

THE CONSERVATIVES ARE PROBABLY GOING TO USE HIM TO TRY TO SWAY THE MONARCHY.

HEY... DON'T TOUCH HIM!

WHA ...?!

Grab

YOU MEAN TO DEFILE THE WALL WITH HUMAN HANDS EVEN FURTHER ?!

HUH ?

DID YOU JUST SAY... SEAL THE GATE?!

UGH... I WONDER WHEN THE NEXT WALL WILL BE DESTROYED.

YOU MEAN THERE ARE STILL FOLKS LIKE THAT? TCH.

HE'S ONE OF THOSE GUYS WHO WORSHIP THE WALLS AS GODS... DON'T GO NEAR HIM.

ｺｿｺｿ

ｺｿｺｿ

OH...

MangaFire.to

YOU'RE FINALLY UP...

MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE, STOHESS DISTRICT BRANCH.

YOU'VE BEEN SLACKING OFF LATELY.

SORRY, ANNIE.

COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO WAKE YOU UP... THAT FACE OF YOURS IS TOO SCARY WHEN YOU'RE ASLEEP.

SHE'S THE ONLY ONE HERE WITH ACTUAL COMBAT EXPERI-ENCE.

ANNIE CAME FROM TROST, YOU KNOW.

LEAVE HER ALONE.

TALK ABOUT COLD.

C' MON ...

HUH? AWW, ARE YOU MAD?

NO ONE GETS OVER THAT RIGHT AWAY.

SHE'S JUST BACK FROM SEEING HELL.

...HMM? I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU MEAN. WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME HOW?

HITCH... THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY A GIRL AS DUMB AS YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE.

...WHAT COULD YOU SEE IN A GIRL LIKE THAT?

PFT!

OHH? SO YOU LIKE HER ALREADY ?

BABAP

HE'S HERE !

KNOCK IT OFF!

KLOK KLOK

MangaFire.to

NO SA-LUTES.

I TOLD YOU...

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU HERE.

LIS-TEN UP.

TODAY, YOU'RE GOING TO BE DOING SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM YOUR NORMAL CHORES.

...

SLUMP...

WELL, THEY'LL BE GOING DOWN CENTER STREET IN TOWN TODAY.

I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU HOW FAR THE SURVEY CORPS HAS FALLEN, DO I?

...

THIS CONCERNS THE SUMMONS OF A SURVEY CORPS PARTY TO THE ROYAL CAPITAL.

JUST WHILE THEY'RE PASSING THROUGH THE TOWN.

AND IT'S THE MILITARY POLICE'S JOB TO ESCORT THEM.

Manga Fire.co

FOLLOW ALONGSIDE THEIR CONVOY AND REINFORCE THEIR SECURITY.

YOU'LL BE GIVEN TEMPORARY PERMISSION TO USE YOUR MANEUVERING EQUIPMENT INSIDE THE CITY.

THAT'S ALL.

HM?

WHAT IS IT?

MAY I ASK A QUES-TION?

...

BEATS ME.

WHAT WILL WE BE GUARDING THE CONVOY **AGAINST** ?

HUH.

YOU SEEM...

SURE, THERE ARE PETTY CRIMINALS, BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE THERE ARE ANY ORGANIZED GROUPS...

...AT LEAST NOT UNLESS THEY'RE BASED OUTSIDE THE WALL.

...I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE INSIDE THIS WALL OPPOSING THE CROWN.

TRY TO HANDLE IT ON YOUR OWN.

WE OFFICERS ARE BUSY.

KCHT

WHAT?

THE DETAILS ARE IN HERE.

I'LL LEAVE THIS TO YOU.

...RELIABLE.

FWAP

BAM

CREAK

JUST DON'T BOTCH IT, OKAY?

HANDING COMMAND OFF TO A RECRUIT WITH LESS THAN A MONTH IN THE BRIGADE?

WHAT A JOKE...

DAMN IT...

PUNT

SHEESH, WISH SOMEONE HAD TOLD ME!

BUT I GUESS YOU GET EVERYONE'S WORK SHOVED OFF ON YOU WHEN YOU'RE A ROOKIE.

OF COURSE, THAT'S WHY I CHOSE IT.

YEAH, THIS PLACE IS EVEN MORE ROTTEN THAN I THOUGHT IT'D BE.

HUH?

YOU'VE BEEN NO DIFFERENT FROM THE MOMENT YOU CHOOSE TO BE AN MP.

AND YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE NOT LIKE THAT, MARLOWE ?

ALL YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IS YOUR-SELVES...

WORTH-LESS FOOLS ...

...

I CAME HERE TO CLEAN UP THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE.

I'M NOT LIKE ANY OF YOU, AND I'M NOT WORTH-LESS.

I **AM** DIFFER-ENT.

...AND HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THAT?

WOW, MARLOWE! YOU'RE ONE OF **THOSE** GUYS?

CLAP CLAP

OOOH!

...

AND ANYONE WHO POCKETED THE PEOPLE'S TAXES OR STOLE THEIR LAND WILL GET WHAT'S COMING TO THEM.

BUT ONCE I DO, EVERY-ONE'S GOING TO HAVE TO WORK FOR EVERY CENT OF THEIR PAY.

I DON'T CARE IF I HAVE TO **ACT** WORTHLESS. I'LL DO ANYTHING IT TAKES.

AND UNTIL I GET THERE ...

BY BEING AT THE TOP.

...

...BECAUSE SOMETHING AWFUL LIKE THAT HAPPENED TO YOU OR YOUR RELATIVES?

DO YOU THINK THAT...

BUT IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT THIS EVIL IS EVERYWHERE, ISN'T IT?

...NOT REALLY.

THEY'LL LEARN THAT A MAN WITHOUT REASON IS NO DIFFERENT FROM AN ANIMAL WHO DEFECATES WHEREVER IT PLEASES...

BUT I'LL MAKE THEM FEEL SHAME.

ANYWAY, I'M NOT SAYING THEY SHOULD DIE.

THE WAY MAN IS MEANT TO BE...

I'M JUST GOING TO RETURN THEM TO BEING NORMAL HUMANS... THAT'S ALL.

IS IT REALLY ?

THAT'S AN ADMIRABLE GOAL...I HOPE YOU WORK HARD TO ACCOMPLISH IT.

...

GAHAHAHA

NOW I FEEL BAD FOR THINKING THAT YOU WERE JUST ANOTHER REGULAR, BORING GUY!

BAHAHAHA

YOU ARE THE REAL THING !

HOLY CRAP !

SMACK SMACK

THEN THAT'S WHEN IT'S ALL OVER.

I THINK THAT WHEN "GOOD PEOPLE" LIKE YOU MANAGE TO TAKE CONTROL,

HM?

WHY DON'T YOU KEEP GOING, THEN, IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY.

OH... SO YOU CAN TALK AFTER ALL.

...

Manga Freak

I KNOW THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU EXIST.

YOU'RE AN UPRIGHT PERSON. WHAT YOU SAY IS RIGHT.

...

I THINK ...

WELL... WHAT I'M SURE OF...

MAYBE PEOPLE WHO CAN DO IT ARE JUST STUPID, BUT...

I RE-SPECT THAT.

GOING AGAINST THE FLOW... TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE.

YOU CAN'T CALL THEM **NORMAL,** EITHER.

SO YOU CAN'T CALL THEM **COM-MON.**

GET CALLED **SPECIAL.**

PEOPLE LIKE YOU...

...

IS THAT PEOPLE LIKE THAT ARE RARE.

WHAT DID YOU CALL THEM?

PEOPLE WHO GO ALONG WITH IT WHEN THEY SEE INJUSTICE?

PEOPLE WHO PUT THEIR OWN INTERESTS AHEAD OF OTHERS?

SO, WHAT SHOULD WE CALL PEOPLE LIKE US, THEN?

IT WAS MOSTLY MADE UP OF WORTHLESS, EVIL PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO BE IN THE MILITARY POLICE.

FROM WHAT I SAW OF THE TRAINING CORPS,

...OR "EVIL."

"WORTH-LESS."

YOU CERTAINLY CAN'T CALL US UPRIGHT, BUT...

NO...

I DO THINK WE'RE WORTHLESS, AND WE'RE DEFINITELY EVIL.

YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO SAY THAT YOU GUYS AREN'T **REALLY** THAT BAD, RIGHT?

STOP BEATING AROUND THE BUSH...

DOESN'T THAT JUST MAKE US **REGULAR PEOPLE** ?

THE KIND OF WEAK PERSON WHO GETS SWEPT ALONG WITH THE FLOW,

SO EVEN IF I'M...

IT'S JUST STRUCTURED SO THAT IT REFLECTS HUMAN NATURE, THAT'S ALL.

IF PEOPLE WERE ESSENTIALLY GOOD LIKE YOU SAY, THEN THIS ORGANIZATION WOULDN'T BE AS ROTTEN AS IT IS, WOULD IT?

I JUST WANT YOU TO THINK OF ME AS HUMAN ...

THAT'S ALL.

MangaFire.to

THAT'S HER, ALL RIGHT.

IT'S LIKE THEY SAY, WHEN THE QUIET ONES FINALLY GET STARTED...

YOU TALK TOO MUCH... AND YOU'RE BORING, TOO.

"THAT'S ALL"?

UPRIGHT, HUH?

Oa。

...

IT'S... THE SYSTEM?

COULD IT BE...IT'S NOT THE PEOPLE THAT NEED TO CHANGE...

SO IF THERE ARE FLAWS IN A SYSTEM THAT ASSUMES ALL ITS MEMBERS ARE UPRIGHT PEOPLE...

OKAY.

WHAA?

WE TALKED FOR TOO LONG. WE'RE HEADING OUT!

HMPH

SNAP

AT LEAST IT WON'T BE DULL WITH HIM AROUND...

WELL ...

I'M GOING TO HANDLE EVERY MISSION PERFECTLY, STARTING WITH THIS ONE!

ZAKK

ZAKK

I'M NOT MESSING AROUND!

ANNIE.

HEY ...

ALREADY A FULL-FLEDGED MP, I SEE.

ARMIN ...

Manga Dynasty.to

WHAT'S THE MATTER ...?

WHAT ARE YOU WEAR-ING?

IT'S A POR-TER OUTFIT.

?!

ARMIN ?

SEE?

THE RAIN GEAR IS TO HIDE MY MANEUVERING EQUIPMENT.

WHAT'S WRONG?

SWIP

ANNIE...

...COME WITH US AND HELP EREN ESCAPE?

CAN YOU...

MangaFire.to

ESCAPE ?

...

WHERE WILL HE RUN?

AFTER IGNORING A ROYAL COMMAND INSIDE THE CITY WALLS...

TO WHERE ?

BUT WE'RE BUYING SOME TIME TO GATHER THE MATERIALS WE NEED TO CHANGE THE COUNCIL'S OPINION.

I KNOW IT LOOKS LIKE AN ACT OF INSUBORDINA-TION BY PART OF THE SURVEY CORPS...

WE'RE JUST GOING TO HIDE HIM TEMPORAR-ILY.

I PROM-ISE!

WE DON'T INTEND TO DEFY THE MONARCHY OPENLY.

MangaFire.to

I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T TELL YOU...
...
CHANGE THEIR OPINION ...?
YOU HAVE SOMETHING **THAT** CONVENIENT ...?
WHAT'S YOUR PROOF ?
I FEEL FOR YOU, BUT...
THIS ISN'T WORTH TALKING ABOUT.
...
...
PLEASE!
AT THIS RATE ...
EREN WILL BE KILLED!
ZAKK
ANNIE!
I WON'T TELL ANYONE. DO YOUR BEST ON YOUR OWN.
THESE GUYS ARE TRYING TO SAVE THEM-SELVES, BUT WITHOUT KNOWING IT...
THEY'RE HEADING DOWN A PATH THAT'S GOING TO DOOM HUMANITY!

STILL, ALL THAT'S LEFT TO ME...IS ONE BIG GAMBLE.

BUT ...

I KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING ISN'T CONVINC-ING...

THIS IS...

MY ONLY OP-TION.

I NEED THE HELP OF SOMEONE IN THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE IN ORDER TO PASS THROUGH WALL SHEENA'S CHECKPOINTS.

I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO KEEP FROM GETTING YOU IN TROUBLE, BUT...

...

...

...REALLY LOOK LIKE SUCH A **GOOD PERSON** TO YOU?

DO I...

...

THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU CALL SOMEONE WHO ACTS IN A WAY THAT'S BENEFICIAL TO YOU.

I... DON'T REALLY LIKE THAT PHRASE.

I MEAN...

A "GOOD PER-SON" ...?

IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GO ALONG WITH THIS PLAN...

SO...

EVEN IF YOU'RE BEING HELPFUL TO ONE PERSON, YOU MIGHT STILL BE A "BAD PERSON" TO SOMEONE ELSE...

I DON'T THINK ANYONE CAN ACT IN A WAY THAT BENEFITS EVERYONE.

Manga Mafire.to

THAT WOULD MAKE YOU A BAD PERSON **TO ME...**

MangaFire.to

FINE.

I'M IN.

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

KL-AK
KLAK

GETTING AWAY WAS... EASIER THAN I THOUGHT.

SHH ...

STOP LOOKING AROUND SO MUCH.

IT GIVES YOU A GOOD IDEA OF HOW SERIOUSLY THE GREAT MILITARY POLICE TAKES ITS JOB.

I WAS IN THE CARRIAGE THE WHOLE TIME, BUT THEY DIDN'T CHECK ON ME AT ALL...

LIKE VILLAINS.

DON'T WORRY...! YOU HAVE SIMILAR BUILDS, AND TERRIFYING GLARES.

I DON'T HAVE A HORSE FACE LIKE HIM...

I MEAN, HE AND I LOOK NOTHING ALIKE...

BUT I DON'T THINK IT'LL TAKE LONG.

NOW WE JUST HAVE TO HOPE THEY DON'T FIND OUT THAT JEAN'S STANDING IN FOR ME...

ZAKK

ZAKK

IF I HADN'T HELPED YOU, HOW WERE PLANNING TO GET PAST THE WALL?

SO...

WE WERE GOING TO BREAK THROUGH USING OUR MANEUVERING EQUIPMENT.

...THAT SEEMS ABSURD.

WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN A LOT LESS TROUBLE TO ESCAPE BEFORE ENTERING STOHESS DISTRICT?

WHY HERE AND NOW?

I THOUGHT THAT THE SWITCH WITH THE BODY DOUBLE WOULDN'T WORK WITHOUT TERRAIN AS COMPLEX AS THE CITY'S.

ACTING OBEDIENT FOR A BIT TO WEAR DOWN THEIR SUSPICIONS THEN SLIPPING AWAY SEEMED LIKE IT'D BUY US MORE TIME THAN OPENLY TRYING TO RUN.

ALL RIGHT, THEN.

OH...

...

ZAKK

ZAKK

ZAKK

HERE?

...

HERE IT IS!

AH ...!

YEAH... WE'RE GOING THROUGH HERE.

MangaFire.to

KLAK KLAK

THEY LEAD ALL THE WAY TO A SPOT NEAR THE OUTER DOOR.

THESE ARE THE RUINS OF THE PLANNED UNDERGROUND CITY.

KLAK KLAK

YEAH. IT'S MUCH SAFER THAN WALKING ABOVE GROUND.

REALLY? WOW...

KLAK KLAK

ANNIE?

HM?

I'M SCARED... I DOUBT A BRAVE...

...I AM.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU...? DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF NARROW, DARK PLACES?

SUICIDAL BLOCKHEAD LIKE YOU...

A FEEBLE MAIDEN LIKE ME.

...UNDER-STAND THE FEELINGS OF...

COULD EVER ...

I'M NOT GOING.

NO.

KLAK KLAK

THERE'S NOTHING FEEBLE ABOUT A MAIDEN WHO CAN FLIP A HUGE MAN 360 DEGREES THROUGH THE AIR.

WE GO ABOVE GROUND, OR I WON'T HELP.

I'M SCARED OF THAT WAY...

STOP BEING STUPID, WE NEED TO HURRY!

WOOOOOOOOOSH

HURRY UP AND GET DOWN HERE!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

WH...

Manga Fire

I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT...

WHY SHOULDN'T HE, MIKASA ?

EREN! DON'T YELL!

STOP MESSING AROUND !!

I HAVEN'T SEEN A SINGLE PERSON AROUND US FOR A WHILE NOW.

THAT REALLY HURTS.

SHEESH, ARMIN...

ANNIE ...

...LOOK-ING AT ME LIKE THAT?

...THAT YOU STARTED ...

WHEN WAS IT...

WHY ...?

tA RATTLE RATTLE tA

WHY DID YOU HAVE MARCO'S VERTICAL MANEUVERING GEAR?

HE FIXED EVEN THE SMALLEST SCRATCHES AND DENTS...

AND I REMEMBERED DOING IT WITH HIM...

SO I COULD TELL.

... FOUND IT.

I JUST ...

OH ...

Manga Mure.to

!!

SO...

THOSE TWO TITANS THAT WERE CAPTURED...

YOU KILLED THEM?

WHY...

...DIDN'T YOU DO ANYTHING **THEN?**

IF YOU THOUGHT THAT A MONTH AGO...

MAYBE ...BUT...

I WANT TO THINK I DID.

MAYBE I MADE A MISTAKE SOME-WHERE...

I CAN'T BE-LIEVE IT...

...EVEN NOW...

BUT...

...

THAT'S WHY I...

THAT ALL OF THIS IS HAPPENING NOW...

WHAT ABOUT YOU, ANNIE? IT'S BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KILL ME THEN...

...

YEAH... I WONDER ABOUT THAT, DEEP DOWN. I NEVER IMAGINED YOU'D END UP CORNERING ME LIKE THIS.

STILL...

WHY DID I DO THAT THEN...?

TWO

...THAT YOU'RE JUST AN IDIOT WITH BAD TIMING WHO'S PLAYING ALONG AS PART OF SOME DUMB JOKE...!

ANYWAY, JUST GET OVER HERE!!

A CHANCE...

THERE'S STILL...

LISTEN, ANNIE...!

YOU CAN PROVE THIS TO US JUST BY COMING UNDER-GROUND!!

GET IN HERE AND GIVE US PROOF!

MangaFire.to

...I CAN'T GO DOWN THERE.

...
COULDN'T BECOME A SOLDIER.

I...

WE CAN STILL TALK THIS OVER!!

TALK TO US, ANNIE!

ENOUGH WITH THE DUMB JOKES!!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU...!!

?!

GRK

ENOUGH.

Manga Fire

SLOSH

I CAN'T LISTEN TO ANY MORE.

THUD

THUD

SHINK

IT'S POINT-LESS...

FEMALE TITAN.

I'LL SLICE YOU TO SHREDS ALL OVER AGAIN...

GRIN

THUMP

THUMP

ARMIN ...

I GUESS YOU WERE LUCKY THAT I WAS A **GOOD PERSON TO YOU.**

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR GAMBLE PAID OFF FOR NOW...

BUT ...

CHAK

THIS IS WHERE **MINE** BEGINS.

14: The Military Police Brigade

ONLY THE TEN INDIVIDUALS WITH THE HIGHEST MARKS IN THEIR YEAR'S TRAINING CORPS MAY APPLY TO THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE. ADDITIONAL SOLDIERS JOIN THE BRIGADE IN OTHER WAYS, SUCH AS BY TRANSFER FROM THE GARRISON AFTER GAINING EXPERIENCE THERE.

THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE IS ABOUT 2,000 SOLDIERS STRONG, BUT REPORTEDLY HAS AN ACTUAL FIGHTING STRENGTH OF ABOUT 5,000 SOLDIERS INCLUDING THE GARRISON, WHICH IS UNDER ITS COMMAND.

THE BRIGADE ACTS AS THOUGH IT IS ABOVE THE GARRISON, AND BEHIND THE SCENES, IT HAS THE POWER TO INFLUENCE EVERY SECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN THE INTERIOR. AS IT DOES NOT COME INTO CONTACT WITH TITANS ON THE FRONT LINES, IT ALSO SUFFERS NO HUMAN LOSSES.

ABOUT 200 MPS ARE DEPLOYED IN EACH WALLED CITY. THEIR MAIN DUTIES ARE TO PRESIDE OVER THE TRAINING CORPS, SUPERVISE THE GARRISON, AND COMMAND AND CONTROL THE FIRE DEPARTMENTS. THEY ALSO ARREST AND DETAIN POLITICAL CRIMINALS AND MAJOR OFFENDERS. THE MILITARY POLICE BRIGADE IS GIVEN FIRST PRIORITY DURING INVESTIGATIONS THAT INVOLVE NOBILITY OR THE ROYAL FAMILY.

DUE TO ITS CHARACTER, THE BRIGADE OFTEN COMES INTO CONFLICT WITH THE SURVEY CORPS, WHOSE ROOTS ARE DEMOCRATIC IN NATURE.

(WITH THANKS TO UKYŌ KODACHI AND KIYOMUNE MIWA)